

CLAIMS

1. A processor for executing image processing under control of a clock facility, such that a sequence of **C** effective clock cycles will effect a processing operation of a predetermined amount of image information,
said processor being characterized in having programming means for implementing programmable stall clock cycles interspersed between said effective clock cycles for implementing a programmable slowdown factor **S**, such that a modified number of **C*S** overall clock cycles will effect processing of said predetermined amount of image information.
2. A processor as claimed in Claim 1, and having said programming means controlling the interspersing in an at least substantially periodical manner.
3. A processor as claimed in Claim 1, effectively representing a coprocessor and having a control processor as said programming means.
4. A processor as claimed in Claim 3, wherein said coprocessor and said control processor are interconnected by a bus to a shared memory facility.
5. A processor as claimed in Claim 4, wherein said coprocessor, said control processor and said bus are disposed on a single semiconductor chip, whereas said shared memory facility is at least substantially off-chip.
6. A processor as claimed in Claim 1, and being arranged to execute at least two different image processing operations under respective different percentages of stall clock cycles.
7. A processor as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said programming means drive an incrementable storage facility through a periodical increment by a number **N** that is a function of said factor **S** according to $N = \text{round} (R * x)$, wherein $x = (S - 1 / S)$ and

R is the range of the storage facility, and wherein a carry output signal of the storage facility will generate an effective clock cycle.

8. A processor as claimed in Claim 5, wherein at least one other bus station than the coprocessor is arranged and allowed to temporarily grab the bus in an interval during a said stall cycle.

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
ASTOR LENOX TILDEN FOUNDATION
500 5TH AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.